

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend Claims 1 – 18 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski with comprising an elongate ski body ~~(4)~~ forming a running surface ~~(5)~~, a mounting ~~(7)~~ for fastening a binding arranged on the an upper face of the ski body ~~(4)~~ and rigidly connected therewith and, at least one upper cord element attached to the ski body ~~(4)~~ extending in the longitudinal direction of the ski body ~~(4)~~ and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having ~~(11)~~, the ends thereof ~~being~~ supported on the ski body ~~(4)~~, the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ being movably mounted relative to the ski body ~~(4)~~ between its ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of pressure forces it the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, ~~(4)~~ and at least one support elements ~~(17, 21, 22)~~ being element provided on the mounting ski body ~~(4)~~ which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ by exerting a counter force thereon.

2. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ comprises at least one slightly curved rod ~~(12)~~ which spans the ski body ~~(4)~~ in the manner of an arc.

3. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ is formed from a plurality of slightly curved rods ~~(12)~~ which are arranged adjacent to one another spanning the ski body.

4. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the rod ~~(12)~~ is arranged relative to the ski body in such a manner that the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis is oriented perpendicular to the running surface ~~(5)~~ of the ski body ~~(1)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the rod ~~(12)~~ is arranged relative to the ski body ~~(1)~~ in such a manner that the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis is inclined toward the running surface ~~(5)~~ of the ski body ~~(1)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 5, characterised in that at least two rods ~~(12)~~ are arranged in such a manner that the planes defined by their curved longitudinal axes abut one another above the ski.

7. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 3, characterised in that between the rods ~~(12)~~ arranged on both sides of the middle of the ski body ~~(1)~~ a spacing is provided into which the apex regions ~~(16)~~ of the rods can move under the effect of pressure forces.

8. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the mounting ~~(7)~~ for fastening the binding is connected to the ski body ~~(1)~~ such that the elastic deformability of the ski body ~~(1)~~ is not affected.

9. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the mounting ~~(7)~~ comprises at least two supports ~~(9, 10)~~ arranged longitudinally at a distance from one another, one support being rigidly connected and the other support longitudinally displaceably connected to the ski body ~~(1)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the mounting ~~(7)~~ for fastening the binding comprises a plate having a lower face and extending ~~(8) which extends~~ over the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ and carries a the at least one support element ~~(17)~~ on its the lower face for supporting the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 10, characterised in that the at least one support element ~~(17)~~ comprises a spring compressible by the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 10, characterised in that the at least one support element comprises a bearing element ~~(20)~~ with a sliding surface on which the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ slides transversely to its longitudinal direction.

13. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the support of at least one end of the at least one upper cord element ~~(11)~~ or of a rod ~~(12)~~ forming it is adjustable in the longitudinal direction of the ski body ~~(1)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that at a distance from the ends of the rod ~~(12)~~ fastened to the ski body ~~(1)~~ at least one guide element ~~(15)~~ is provided, in which the rod ~~(12)~~ is longitudinally displaceably guided.

15. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 14, characterised in that the guide element ~~(15)~~ is formed in such a manner that it allows a limited

transverse movement of the rod (42) in the direction of the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis.

16. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that damping elements acting on the at least one upper cord element (44) are provided which dampen the compensating movements of the at least one upper cord element (44) occurring under compressive stress.

17. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that on the an upper face of the ski body (4) a traction element (48) is arranged which extends in the longitudinal direction of the ski body (4) and the having ends thereof are fastened to the end regions of the ski body (4), the ski body (4) comprising a support protruding from the ski body (4) in at least one position between the ends of the traction element (48), on which support the tensioned traction element (48) rests.

18. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the ends of the at least one upper cord element (44) are connected to the ski body (4) by a connection transmitting pressure forces and tensile forces and that the at least one upper cord element (44) is constructed and/or mounted such that under the impact of tensile forces it the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically.